

INDUSTRIAL MISHAPS BLAMED ON EMPLOYERS

Harrisburg, Pa.—Dr. J. W. Scherschewsky, of the Federal public health service, together with other health authorities, disagreed with mechanical experts before the fourth annual Industrial and Efficiency Conference, that "four per cent of the industrial mishaps to workers could be remedied by better equipment, but the other accidents were due to the men."

A workman toils in a poorly lighted room; his eyes become fatigued; there is an accident. Is that the fault of the man? asked these medical men.

Shop ventilation is poor; the workman is poisoned with foul air and becomes stupefied; there is an accident—the fault of ventilation.

Sickness, said the doctors, was in most cases an industrial accident, generally due to poor working conditions. There are 30,000,000 workers in the country. Each one of them averaged nine days of preventable sickness a year, or 240,000,000 days wasted.

Foremen who took no thought of "teaming" men of the same physical strength, who paid no attention to lighting, who laughed when anyone talked ventilation, were in charge of most of the plants. The foreman did not ascertain whether a man was mentally fitted for his task. He would hire an epileptic. He worked men until they dropped.

Millard B. King, director of industrial education in this State, advocated industrial training to avoid accidents. He believes that if the eye, the hand and the brain of children are trained, it will enable them to become acquainted with "the atmosphere of industry." He said safety lessons should also be taught, but agreed that his plan for lessening accidents would require more time than the plan favored by the medical men.

EMPLOYEES GIVEN BONUS

By Western Union—Messenger Boys Will Share.

New York, Dec. 5.—Directors of the Western Union Telegraph Company today voted a bonus to employees receiving less than \$2,000 a year, 7 per cent of their annual salary to those receiving less than \$1,200, and 6 per cent to those receiving between \$1,200 and \$2,000. Messengers will receive \$25 each. The resignation of W. H. Baker, secretary of the company, was announced. Andrew F. Burleigh was appointed his successor.

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Frank L. Rist Is Recovering

The Operation on Him Last Week Was a Success and He Will Be Out Next Week.



FRANK L. RIST
Editor of The Chronicle.

Frank L. Rist, district organizer of the American Federation of Labor, returned from the A. F. of L. Convention last week and immediately went to bed; he was suffering from a carbuncle, which was operated upon last Saturday and Frank has been getting better every minute; and if the weather continues

as fine as it has been, he expects to be out on the streets next week.

As soon as it was announced in the daily press that he was sick, hundreds of friends called to see him and he has practically had a reception day every day since he has been confined, entertaining merchants, politicians, labor men and others, who all wish him God speed.

THANKS A. F. OF L.

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Frank Morrison, of the A. F. of L., has received the following letter from President Golden, of the United Textile Workers of America:

"At the convention of the United Textile Workers of America, held in New York City, October 16 to 21, a resolution was unanimously passed instructing the secretary-treasurer to extend to President Gompers, Secretary Morrison and the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor a hearty vote of thanks for their splendid assistance, both moral and financial, which they have given the United Textile Workers of America during the current year in aid of the campaign of organizing which has been so successfully waged among the unorganized textile workers of the country."

"As a result of the success of this campaign I only need to refer to the fact that we are now paying per capita tax on practically double the membership of one year ago, and we are still growing."

"Had it not been for the splendid assistance rendered by the American Federation of Labor, this healthy increase in membership would not have been possible."

PROTECT WINDOW CLEANERS.

San Francisco, Cal.—The State Industrial Accident Commission has issued tentative safety orders regarding window cleaning. Every phase of this calling is covered and window cleaners are prohibited from passing from window to window on the outside except where there is a projection from the face of the building at least twenty-four inches wide or except where a railing or handhold is provided or where the window ledge is less than twelve feet above the grade.

All movable ladders, except substantial stepladders, shall be provided with rough surface feet or other suitable means to prevent slipping.

A man shall be placed at the foot of ladders fifteen feet or more in length when same are being used.

STREET CAR MEN PROGRESS.

Fort Smith, Ark.—The local street car company has signed a one-year union shop contract with the Street Car Men's Union. Wages are increased 8 per cent for employees in the operating department, car barns and power house, and the company has accepted the check-off system for dues. This is the first wage demand since the union was organized, three years ago. The increases will total nearly \$5,000 a year. International Treasurer Rezin Orr of the street car men and A. F. of L. Organizer C. H. Miller assisted in the negotiations.

HIGH WAGES; GREATER OUTPUT

Chicago.—Van H. Manning, director of the federal bureau of mines, told the convention of the American Mining Congress that American wages are compensated by the greater value of the output per man and that American industries have overcome foreign competition "by reason of abundance of our natural resources, ingenuity of our inventors and improved machinery."

He protested against the too little regard for the health and safety of the men who labor and declared that "we have become involved in an orgy of hasty exploitation and we are nearing the maximum production of some of the minerals, though the original supply, if wisely mined and utilized, would have lasted many years longer and brought us ten times the wealth."

OPPOSE "NO-STRIKE" LAW.

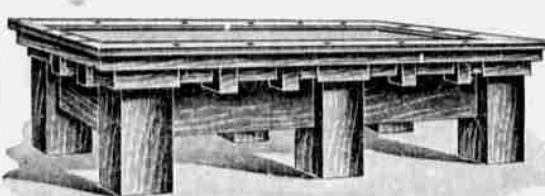
Denver.—Secretary-Treasurer Anderson of the State federation of labor urges Colorado trade unionists to prepare for the coming session of the State legislature and demand the repeal of the industrial commission law, which denies workers in any industry the right to strike before the commission investigates the dispute. This legislation is modeled after the Canadian industrial disputes act, which applies to public utilities. The repeal of this statute was declared to be of paramount interest to the workers of Colorado by the last convention of the State federation of labor.

Other legislation that will be urged includes the enactment of an anti-injunction law; a semi-monthly pay day to apply to employees of railroads; a firemen's pension law and the enactment of a public defender law.

COAL FAMINE ARTIFICIAL.

Indianapolis.—There is no coal famine, says the United Mine Workers' Journal, which declares that the present market conditions is caused by "the manipulation of the coal supply by the speculators who are reaping the difference between the contract prices of coal and the amount they are able to extort from the consumer."

The "car shortage" we hear so much about is partly the result of intentional delay in the transmission of cars and the unloading at distributing points, says the editor.



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